

**REMARKS**

1        Claims 1-14 have been presented for examination in the  
2 above-identified U.S. Patent Application.

3  
4        Claims 8 and 9 have been rejected in the Office Action  
5 dated September 13, 2006.

6  
7        Claims 1-7 and 10-14 have been indicated as being  
8 allowable pending resolution of Claim informalities.

9  
10       Claims 1, 2, 5, and 10 have been amended by this  
11 Amendment A.

12  
13       Claims 8 and 9 have been cancelled by this Amendment  
14 A.

15  
16       Claims 1-7 and 10-14 are still in the application and  
17 reconsideration of the Application is hereby respectfully  
18 requested.

19  
20       The amendment of Claims 1, 2, and 10, in view of  
21 Examiner's remarks, is believed to place Claims 1-7 and 10-  
22 14 in condition for allowance.

23  
24       Claims 8 and 9 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C.  
25 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,314,530  
26 issued in the name of Mann in view of U.S. Patent 5,440,700  
27 issued in the name of Kaneko. Claims 8 and 9 have been

1 cancelled by this Amendment A. Consequently, the  
2 cancellation of these Claims obviates the rejection of the  
3 Application resulting from the presence of these Claims.

4

5 Consequently, it is believed that Claims 1-7 and 10-  
6 14, all the Claims remaining in the Application, are in  
7 condition for allowance.

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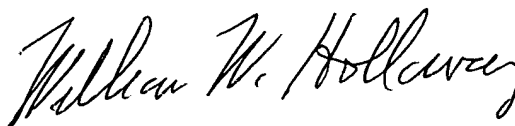
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## CONCLUSION

1        In view of the foregoing discussion and the foregoing  
2        amendments, it is believed that Claims 1-7 and 10-14 are  
3        now in condition for allowance and allowance of Claims 1-7  
4        and 10-14 is respectfully requested. Applicant(s) hereby  
5        respectfully request a timely Notice of Allowance be issued  
6        for this Application.

Respectfully submitted,



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